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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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EXAMINER

SHEIKH, ASFAND M

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3627

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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07/30/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/904,965

Applicant(s)

STEURY ET AL.

Examiner

Asfand M. Sheikh

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 16 May 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6,8,10 and 17-22 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6,8,10 and 17-22 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 16-May-2007 has been entered.

Acknowledgements

The amendment filed on 16-May-2007 has been entered. Claims 1-6, 8, 10, and 17-22 are pending for examination. The examiner establishes new ground rejection for the pending claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

3. Claims 1-6, 8, 10, and 17-18, 20-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Buchanan in view of Hudson et al. and Chung et al.

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As per claims 1, 3, 4, 6, 10, 17, 20, and 22, Buchanan teaches receiving travel-related expenses of every traveler associated with the travel information processing system (see at least, col. 4, lines 55-67 and col. 5, lines 1-16); obtaining a user profile comprising allocation information, wherein said allocation information defines a plurality of fees with a correspond plurality of accounts (see at least, col. 3, lines 16-22 and col. 6, lines 17-35; the examiner interprets "customer profile" to be a user profile for a business organization and "every traveler" to be accounts associated with the user profile, with the given "every traveler" having their own profile and account (see at least, col. 6, lines 5-16 and FIG. 3)); charging a first account, according to said user profile for a cost related to said travel-related transaction (see at least, col. 10, lines 5-40 and FIG. 3); determining said fee based upon said travel-related expense of a traveler wherein said fee represents an extra charge related to said travel-related transaction in addition to said cost (see at least, col. 12, lines 50-65); the ability to charge accounts (see at least, col. 10, lines 5-40 and FIG. 3); wherein said receiving, establishing, determining, and charging steps are performed by at least one computer (see at least, FIG. 1).

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The examiner notes Buchanan is silent with respect to receiving a Passenger Name Record from a travel reservation system, related to said travel-related transaction, wherein said Passenger Name Record facilitates charging a fee; charging said fee to a second account according to said user profile; and providing an enhanced descriptive billing statement, wherein said enhanced descriptive billing statement: (i) recites said cost related to said travel-related transaction (ii) separately recites said fee; and (iii) recites indicia indicating that said fee and said cost are related to each other (iii).

Hudson teaches charging said fee to a second account according to said user profile and (see at least, 0043) providing an enhanced descriptive billing statement, wherein said enhanced descriptive billing statement: (i) recites said cost related to said travel-related transaction (ii) separately recites said fee; and (iii) recites indicia indicating that said fee and said cost are related to each other (iii) (see at least, FIG. 17).

It is in the examiners position that it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teachings of Buchanan to include charging said fee to a second account according to said user profile and providing an enhanced descriptive billing

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statement, wherein said enhanced descriptive billing statement:

(i) recites said cost related to said travel-related transaction
(ii) separately recites said fee; and (iii) recites indicia
indicating that said fee and said cost are related to each other
(iii) as taught by Hudson. One of ordinary skill in the art
would have been motivated to combine the teachings in order to
have a global travel reporting system that operates on a
corporate database environment, which allows for automated
travel reporting (see at least, 0004).

Chung et al. teaches receiving an Account Interface Record
(AIR) in a specified format that contains all information found
in a Passenger Name Record (PNR), that is received from a travel
reservation system (CRS) (see at least, col. 9, lines 21-28 and
col. 10, lines 17-44). The examiner notes that the AIR is
synonymous to a PNR, and further contains fee information, that
is downloadable to any database system for further processing.

It is in the examiners position that it would have been
obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the
invention was made to modify the teachings of Hudson et al. to
include receiving an Account Interface Record (AIR) that
contains all information found in a Passenger Name Record (PNR),
that is received from a travel reservation system (CRS) as
taught by Chung et al. One of ordinary skill in the art would

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have been motivated to combine the teachings in order to have the ability to download travel data to a computer in order for ease of integration in general ledger documents and files (see at least, col. 4, lines 14-17).

As per claim 2, Buchanan teaches wherein the travel reservation system is a Computer Reservation System (see at least, col. 4, lines 15-31).

As per claim 5, the examiner notes Buchanan is silent with respect to further comprising providing a portion of said Passenger Name Record to a management information system for providing periodic enhanced descriptive billing statement.

Hudson et al. teaches providing to a management information system enhanced descriptive billing statements (Hudson et al., see at least, 0046 and 0047).

It is in the examiners position that it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teachings of Buchanan to include providing to a management information system enhanced descriptive billing statements as taught by Hudson et al. The motivation to combine is the same as claim 1, above.

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Chung et al. teaches an Account Interface Record (AIR) in a specified format that contains all information found in a Passenger Name Record (PNR), that is received from a travel reservation system (CRS) (Chung et al., see at least, col. 9, lines 21-28 and col. 10, lines 17-44). The examiner notes that the AIR is synonymous to a PNR, and further contains fee information, that is downloadable to any database system for further processing.

It is in the examiners position that it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teachings of Buchanan to include receiving an Account Interface Record (AIR) that contains all information found in a Passenger Name Record (PNR), that is received from a travel reservation system (CRS) as taught by Chung et al. The motivation to combine is the same as claim 1, above.

As per claim 8 and 18, the examiner notes Buchanan is silent with respect to providing said account with fee reconciling information.

Hudson et al. teaches providing said account with fee reconciling information (Hudson et al, see at least, 0042).

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It is in the examiners position that it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teachings of Buchanan to include providing said account with fee reconciling information as taught by Hudson et al. The motivation to combine is the same as claim 1, above.

As per claim 10, Buchanan teaches a digital storage medium having instructions stored thereon configured to execute the method of claim 1 (see at least, col. 5, lines 17-25).lines 17-25).

As per claim 21, Buchanan teaches providing reports to a system (Buchanan, see at least, col. 11, lines 64-67).

Buchanan is silent with respect to providing a facilitated entity with data via a management information system and providing PNR data to system

Hudson et al. teaches providing a facilitated entity with data via a management information system (Hudson et al., see at least, 0048-0050).

It is in the examiners position that it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teachings of Buchanan to

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include teaches providing a facilitated entity with data via a management information system as taught by Hudson et al. The motivation to combine is the same as claim 1, above.

Buchanan in view of Hudson et al. is silent with respect to providing PNR data to system,

Chung et al. teaches providing PNR data to system (Chung et al., see at least, col. 9, lines 21-28 and col. 10, lines 17-44).

It is in the examiners position that it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the combination of Buchanan in view of Hudson et al. to include providing PNR data to system as taught by Chung et al. The motivation to combine is the same as claim 1, above.

Claim 19 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Buchanan in view of Hudson et al. and Chung et al. as applied to claim 18 above, and further in view of Felix et al.

As per claim 19, Buchanan teaches fee reconciliation information (see at least, col. 13, lines 4-14).

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The examiner notes Buchanan, Hudson et al, and Chung et al. are all silent with respect to sending reconciliation information to a credit entity.

Felix et al. teaches sending reconciliation information to a service provider (Felix et al., see at least 0052). The examiner notes that the billing service provider is a credit entity.

It is in the examiners position that it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teachings of Buchanan, Hudson et al, and Chung et al. to include sending reconciliation information to a service provider as taught by Felix et al. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to combine the teachings in order to provide an archived history of account transactions that take place.

Response to Arguments

4. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-6, 8, 10, and 17-22 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

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Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Asfand M. Sheikh whose telephone number is (571) 272-1466. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8a-4:30p.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ryan M. Zeender can be reached on (571) 272-6790. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Asfand M Sheikh
Examiner
Art Unit 3627

ams
20-Jul-2007

 7/23/07
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SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER